

# Retirees Report News

News and pictures from Kresge retirees arrived in the KRESGE NEWS office in response to a letter from the editors asking what's new. Here are some of the letters received.



Retiree Mary Forst poses with her daughter, Sr. M. Veronique.

**JAMES E. ARMSTRONG**, Jackson, Ill., former company personnel director, Detroit Office:

"I am very active with the Contact Club of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. I work 12 to 15 hours a week as executive manager of the Board of Managers of the Jacksonville Cemetery.

"Still love to play golf. Hit a hole in one in 1962 and another hole in one in Milwaukee in 1963.

"Spent some time in Detroit in October and visited K-marts with C. Lloyd Yoho, discount vice president."

**GARNET F. FREHEAU**, Studio City, Calif., former manager of Kresge 18, Reading, Pa.:

"Flew from Los Angeles to Shannon, Ireland in 16 hours on the first leg of an overseas vacation. Toured northwest Ireland, Wales and southwest England. It's a very colorful, interesting area. Flew by helicopter to St. Agnes Scilly Island—38 miles from the mainland. Enjoyed every minute of the tour."

**FLORENCE MAIR**, Jansenville, Wis., former employee at former Kresge 1118 (now Jupiter 4817), Jansenville:

"Former employees Ruth Waldman, Amanda Wickert, Tillie Zentz, Lillias Buggs, Edna Wyman, Inez Christie and myself formed a club which meets every month on the fourth Thursday at one another's homes for a luncheon. We usually play cards. We all look forward to our meetings. In the summer we have a picnic and in December a Christmas party when we go out for dinner and exchange gifts. We also have a birthday fund. Some time in the future, we plan on taking a trip somewhere. It would be so nice if we can make it Detroit."

**THERESA EILERS**, Trenton, N.J., former employee at Kresge 68, Trenton:

"Enjoying my retirement very much and doing the things I like to do such as crocheting and crossword puzzles and taking a long walk every day. I was never able to do these things when working. I also read a lot. My sister spent her vacation at Beach Haven Crest, N.J., and invited me to go along so I had a very enjoyable time at the beach for a week. I had another visit at the beach when I went with my other sister to Atlantic City for a week. I also spent several days with Viola Johnson, a Kresge retiree, who now lives in Browns Mills, N.J."

**ANNIE NANNINI**, Somerville, Mass., former employee at Kresge 165, Boston, Mass.:

"I retired after 35 years of service. I still keep in touch with my old friends. I am planning a trip to Italy in the spring. I have already made two trips there since my retirement."

**HAZEL COOK**, Elgin, Ill., former employee of Kresge 177, Elgin:

"My three years of retirement have brought me closer to my family and my home. I have one son, four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren to enjoy and take care of. God has been good to me. My health is good, too."

"I go to Florida every January. This year I went to Denver, Colo., to the Eagles National Convention. My yard takes most of my time in the summer."

"I miss the people I worked with at Kresge for 35 years. I am always invited to the store parties."

"I do enjoy my KRESGE NEWS and look forward to receiving it. I keep all the issues together to look back on at future dates."

"Thank you for giving me the chance to report my activities. A part of my heart will always be with Kresge's."

**MARY FORST**, Chicago, Ill., former employee at Kresge 660, Chicago:

"I've been doing some needlework—making afghans for my children and grandchildren."

"During the summer I did some traveling. My daughter, Sister M. Veronique, celebrated her silver anniversary in the religious life. We took her to my son's home in Connecticut and we went to the World's Fair. Of course, we had to stop at all the Kresge stores along the way and compare them in our 480. Sister Veronique enjoyed the visiting as much as we did."

**AL E. HOHL**, Pensacola, Fla., former member of the Detroit Office accounting department:

"Every issue of the KRESGE NEWS continues to be good reading, especially to this retiree of 15 years. My wife and I are now living in Florida where we built our own home."

"Both of us have retired from the business world and are enjoying sunny Florida."

**ROBERT BALES**, Omaha, Neb., former night watchman at Kresge 234, Omaha:

"Fishing is my summertime hobby, but now as summer is about over I will content myself with television and the KRESGE NEWS which I enjoy very much. I go into 326 quite a bit, but a lot of the old faces are disappearing. The KRESGE NEWS helps me keep track of my old associates."

"I am afraid from now until spring I will have to content myself with short walks when the weather permits."

## Judges Select Best Yule Gifts

Winners of the Detroit Office Ruth Alden Dress Drive contest and the Goodfellow Doll Drive contest received cash prizes in a judging held November 25.

Ten prizes of \$12 to \$3 were awarded for the best hand-made doll costumes in the Goodfellow contest, and six prizes of \$12 to \$3 were given for the best hand-made dresses in the Ruth Alden contest. All winners' handicraft was entered in the city-wide Detroit competition which was judged after Thanksgiving.

Judges for the Detroit Office contests were: Mrs. Charles A. Leadbetter, wife of the president of the 1964 Goodfellow Drive; Mrs. David C. Vokes and Mrs. W. McKay Skillman, wives of past presidents of Goodfellow Drives; and Mrs. Samuel F. Danto, a member of the Executive Committee of the National Society of Interior Designers.



**NINETY-SEVEN YEARS YOUNG** . . . Founder Sebastian S. Kresge, chairman of the Board of Directors, poses with his "best friend" Berta on the grounds of the Kresge home in Miami Beach, Fla. The picture was taken by Ralph D. Kresge, a former vice president who retired in May 1961 and now resides in Miami Shores. The original picture was a color snapshot which W. E. Sturges, vice president in charge of personnel, had enlarged and made into a 16x20-inch portrait.

## District Men Enrich Assistants' Training

Since the end of September, many assistant managers have been receiving additional training through informal meetings with their district managers, reported W. E. Sturges, vice president in charge of personnel.

District Manager Donald A. Rogers of the Midwestern Region explained: "We believe this type of meeting acquaints our men with the fact that we all have common problems that can be solved. It gives them self-confidence in expressing themselves and gives them the opportunity to share their experiences."

Generally the meetings are held in the evenings. The men go to dinner together and return to one of the stores for the session. Meetings are held on the average of once every six to eight weeks. Usually 20 to 25 assistants are invited.

Some of the sessions begin with a brief discussion by the district manager on current events in the company. Then, several of the assistants present 10 to 15-minute talks on pre-assigned subjects. Topics discussed include check-out efficiency, expense control, new merchandise, stock control, waste control and KW ticket re-ordering. This meeting format is used by Mr. Rogers and District Manager Donald G. Edol of the Southern Region.

After each assistant's presentation, the district manager moderates an open discussion, giving all assistants a chance to ask questions and contribute ideas.

Mr. Edol said: "The purpose of these meetings, as I see it, is twofold: to teach the men more about operating a store and to give them an opportunity to acquire public speaking experience. The assistants are very enthusiastic about these

get-togethers and have asked that we continue them."

Among the comments received from assistant managers by Mr. Rogers were the following:

• Geoffrey W. Hill, 378, Hanoverwood, Mo.: "These meetings allow the men to gain new ideas and catch up through exchange of experience."

• Ronald J. Bittner, 68, Belleville, Ill.: "These meetings enable the assistants to discuss new problems, new merchandise, company policies, and common problems. A seminar of this type is good in any business, but especially in a business as competitive as Kresge's."

• George W. Halverson, 34, St. Louis, Mo.: "The assistant managers' meetings are of real value to all assistants, but especially to the new men. Discussions increase the knowledge of new men and refresh the minds of the more experienced assistants. These meetings also give assistants the chance to know each other better and share ideas."

A different meeting format has been used by District Manager Albert F. Hunt of the Southern Region. There are no formal presentations. Subjects are introduced for general informal discussion.

At a meeting held in Chicago for all the assistants in District Manager Edward J. Scully's territory, regional executives Robert J. Young, assistant Midwestern regional manager, and William C. Warburton, regional personnel manager, were special guests.

After a meeting held in the Southern Region by District Manager Emory H. Larson, Assistant Manager Kenneth Lundberg, 746, Dallas, Tex., reported: "I think the assistant managers' meeting with executives was a big success. I think these meetings should be held regularly."



Hazel Cook



Robert Bales

Kresge retirees in Jansenville, Wis.